



The “D” Word: Why Diversity Matters and How it Can Make Your Organization Stronger

Join us for a Webinar on May 19

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Diversity is not most firefighters' favorite topic. For many, the “D” word brings up images of political correctness, legal challenges, and uncomfortable situations. Yet understanding and utilizing diversity in its widest sense is absolutely critical for fire departments to be able to deliver service to their communities, adapt to changing circumstances, and make better decisions. This webinar will take a practical approach to the challenges diversity presents, specifically addressing topics such as: How can we recruit firefighters from ethnically diverse communities? What are we doing now that might make it difficult for someone who is different to succeed in this organization? What do diverse populations or individuals need to know about the fire service and what do we need to know about them? And really, what is diversity anyway, and how is it a critical component of effective decision making?

This webinar will be interactive, straightforward, and fun. As one past workshop participant said, “It is refreshing having someone who is not afraid to say it how it is, especially in a constructive manner.” Be prepared to think differently about diversity at the end of this session, as well as having some solid tools to address your most challenging situations.

VCOS Board Member J. Dan Eggleston hosts Linda F. Willing in this dynamic and engaging Webinar. Linda is a retired fire officer with the Boulder, CO Fire Department and is currently the principal trainer and consultant with RealWorld Training & Consulting, a company that specializes in providing support to emergency services agencies in the areas of leadership development, conflict resolution, communications, diversity management, and decision making. Linda writes a monthly column for FireRescue1 called “Leading the Team” as well as publishing her own newsletter “Consider This.”

*** Registration Questions: INDIVIDUAL ANSWERS AND IDENTITY WILL BE PROTECTED. YOUR ANSWERS WILL NOT BE SEEN BY ANY OTHER ATTENDEES***

Title: *The “D” Word: Why Diversity Matters and How it Can Make Your Organization Stronger*

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2011

Time: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM EDT

System Requirements

PC-based attendees

Required: Windows® 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Macintosh®-based attendees

Required: Mac OS® X 10.4.11 (Tiger®) or newer